Alternate sources of Energy

1470. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have developed alternate sources of energy for boosting up the production of energy in the country;

(b) what are the details of energy produced from each source;

(c) whether the rate of production of energy through non-conventional energy sources is the lowest as compared to conventional sources of energy; and

(d) if so, in what manner Government propose to increase the quantum of energy produced through non-conventional sources of energy?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) and (b) Several programmes, including R&D and demonstration programmes, for production of energy through alternate sources of energy, such as solar thermal, solar photovoltaic, wind energy, biogas and biomass, etc., are being implemented throughout the country.

Under the National Project on Biogas Development a total of over 1168 lakh biogas plants have been installed since 1981. Nine wind farm projects with an aggregate capacity of over 10 MW have been installed in six States and about 220 lakh units of electricity have been fed to the respective State grids. Under the Solar Thermal Programme, various systems such as solar water heaters, domestic solar water heaters, solar cookers, solar air heaters|crop dryers, solar timber kilns and solar stills have been installed. Under the Solar Photovoltaic Programme, solar photovoltaic systems with a total capacity of about 300KW have been installed or are under installation. Under the Biomass Conversion System, 580 gasifier|stirling engine systems of different ratings and modest have been installed for various applications with a total capacity of about 5 M.W.

(c) and (d) The cost of production of energy through non-conventional energy sources depends on various factors, such as the type of energy source, location, size of installation, state of technology, volume of production, etc. In certain cases, the cost of energy supplied from these sources is comparable with conventional power based on diesel and thermal power generating systems. The measures taken to augment power generation from non-conventional energy sources include an intensified research and development efforts to reduce costs of generation and to achieve the economies of large scale production.

Terms of reference of Review Committee

1471. SHRI JAGESH DESAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1509 given in the Rajya Sabha on 31st July, 1989 and state:

(a) what were the terms of reference of the review Committee;

(b) whether it is a fact that the case of M|s. Glaxo was not covered by the terms of reference;

(c) if so, how this case was given to the committee without amending the term of reference;

(d) whether the scope of review, was to review the price fixed on 12th May, 1981 or to fix a prospective price; and

(e) what is the date from which this price is applicable and what are the basis on which this decision has been taken?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (e) The case of M|s. Glaxo was not covered under the original terms of reference of the Price Review Committee. The case arose out of the judgement dated 31, 1987 of the Delhi High Court which required the Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals to give hearing to the Party and fix a price after the hearing. Since the Price Review Committee had already been constituted to look into the cases of the Companies